July 8 2008

Ed Smith

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT STATE OF MONTANA

FILED

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

FORT BENTON CITY COURT

A. E. Anderson, City Judge 1204 Front Street P.O. Box 8 Ft. Benton, MT 59442 Tel. (406) 622-5494

July 7, 2008

Montana Supreme Court Box 203003 Helena, MT 59620-3003

Re: Proposed 2008 Montana Code of Judicial Conduct.

Rule 3.10

Honorable Justices:

Having reviewed the captioned document and the letter of comment submitted by the Hon. Chuck Wall, Justice of the Peace of Lake County, Montana, I respectfully wish to add the following to his suggestions:

Although I am a City Judge in a small (approximately 1700) jurisdiction and hold formal Court sessions only once each week with additional session added when necessary, I have often been told that I am, "a full time judge that is compensated on a part time basis." In the eighteen years that I have occupied this position, I have been called to "work" at most hours of the day and night and during every day of the week. Compensation was never offered or expected when these calls were answered except in the case of performance of a wedding ceremony. Additionally, statutes require certain specific steps be taken before a "substitute judge" may properly assume the duties of my office, further indicating that this position is "full time."

Before the proposed Code is adopted, please consider more specifically defining the term "full-time judge" as used in Rule 3.10 (A).

Respectfully submitted,

a. S. anderson

A. E. Anderson

City Judge